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INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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S-E-C-R-E-T

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COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

SUBJECT

Soviet Military Activity
at NeuruppinConstruction of
a saw mill / River crossing
exercises / military rail
shipment

DATE DISTR.

8 OCT 1958

NO. PAGES

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REFERENCES

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DATE OF
INFO.

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PLACE &
DATE ACQ.

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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE

information
on the following Soviet military activities in the Neuruppin area: during the
period 15 August - 3 September 1958: erection of a sawmill at the Panzer Kaserne
; observation of vehicles coming from the Panzer Kaserne; use of the
former hospital at Standortlazarett as staff headquarters; river crossing ex- 25X1
ercises over the Schleuse at Alt Ruppin; and rail transport which left Neuruppin
station on 15 August 1958 in the direction of Wittstock.

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EAST GERMANYMILITARY

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Soviet activity at NEURUPPIN(15 Aug - 3 Sep 58)PANZER KASERNE (BS 2205)

1. A Russian sawmill has been erected in the barrack area of the Panzer Kaserne [REDACTED] 25X1
2. On 30 Aug 58 at 0900 hours 15 x flats stood at ALT RUPPIN station. The following vehicles coming from the Panzer Kaserne were loaded:

- (a) 7 x T54.
- (b) 3 x T34/85.
- (c) 2 x JSU-122.

STANDORTLAZARETT (BS 2202)

3. The building [REDACTED] is no longer used as a hospital but as a staff HQ by the Soviet army. 25X1
A large number of telephone lines enter the building coming from the buildings of the SEE Kaserne (BS 2203) and the FRIEDRICH-FRANZ Kaserne (BS 2201).

4. The Soviet army now use the former German hospital in the NEUSTAEDTER Strasse [REDACTED] 25X1

RIVER CROSSING EXERCISES

5. [REDACTED] river crossing exercises took place over the SCHLEUSE at ALT RUPPIN [REDACTED] A ferry transferred 3 x T54, 10 x ZIS-151 and 2 x jeeps from the west to the east bank. 25X1

6. The ferry took one tank [REDACTED] at a time. The ferry was towed by a motor boat. The banks have permanent bridging piers each side at this point. 25X1

When loading or off-loading, steel plates were used between bank and ferry. The plates were carried on the ferry to be used for off-loading purposes. The distance between banks is approximately 60 metres and each crossing took 25 minutes. This time included:

- (a) Laying the loading plates;
- (b) Loading the vehicle;
- (c) Loading the plates on board the ferry;
- (d) Crossing to the far bank;
- (e) Making fast the ferry & putting plates in position for off-loading;
- (f) Off-loading the vehicle;
- (g) Reloading the plates.

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7. Roughly ten men were employed who crossed with the ferry to off-load and then returned to reload. The men were unarmed.

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9. TRANSPORT

On 15 Aug 58 a rail transport left NEURUPPIN station at 1430 hours in the direction of WITTSTOCK. The following equipment, which arrived from the direction of the SEE Kaserne, was on the train:

- (a) 1 x JSU-122.
- (b) 5 x T34/85.
- (c) 2 x 3-axled amphibians
- (d) 1 x 3-axled petrol bowser,
- (e)
- (f) 3 x ZIS-151.
- (g) 1 x 3-axled workshop
- (h) 2 x load not known.

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10. On 31 Aug 58 at 0730 hours 3 x amphibious tank passed through STEINBERGE village, driving in the direction of NEURUPPIN.

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